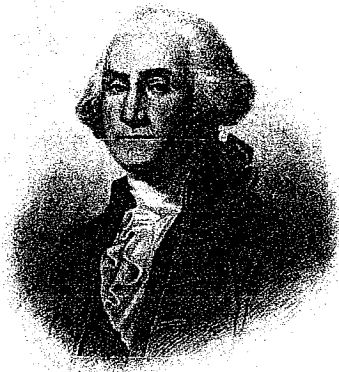


Washington Township

2238 State Route 756

Moscow, Ohio 45153

Website: washingtontwpclermont.org



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to model excellence in local government through accountability to the community. We strive to address the needs of our residents and provide them with recreational facilities, safe roadways, fire suppression/safety, and medical services in a compassionate and fiscally responsible manner. We are dedicated to continually improving and increasing our efficiency, while providing extraordinary service to the citizens of Washington Township and to our surrounding communities.

OVERVIEW

Washington Township is located at the southern tip of Clermont County. Founded in 1803, it is one of the original townships, and its area has been reduced by the formation of Franklin and Monroe townships. Washington Township consists of 36.29 square miles and its most southern boundary is the Ohio River. The Township has two (2) villages within its corporation limits, Moscow Village and Neville Village. The 2010 Census reported that Township has 2,278 residents, with 87% of the population living within the unincorporated area of Washington Township. Washington Township is the only Township in Clermont County that remains un-zoned. The Township provides Fire and Emergency Medical Services, maintains 26.341 miles of roadway, has five (5) active cemeteries, and offers a 191 acre park with a fishing lake for all to use. Our rolling hills, farm lands, and river access make Washington Township a very diverse and unique community in which to work and live.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AMENITIES

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP PARK

Some have called it the best kept secret in Clermont County... what are we talking about... the Washington Township Park. Located at 2238 State Route 756, this property, formerly owned by the Ohio Operating Engineers, was purchased by Washington Township in 1991 for \$191,000 or \$1,000 per acre (property consists of 191 acres). The park facility is opened daily from dawn till dusk; and all amenities are free to the general public, with the exception of fishing in the lake.

FISHING LAKE



The fishing lake is equipped with a handicapped accessible dock. Individuals for the age of 16 – 64 can fish at the lake, as long as they purchase a Township Fishing Permit. Permit rates are as follows:

Daily Permits - \$5.00
Weekend Permits - \$10.00 (2 days)
Individual Annual Permit - \$20.00 (will expire on Dec. 31st)
Special Event Permit - \$30.00 per event
Senior citizens (age 65 & older) fish free at all times!

WALKING TRAILS

Encircling the lake is a paved walking/biking track. To avoid accidents walkers/runners are asked to walk counter clockwise and bikers clockwise. Three and a-half times around the lake from your starting point is equal to approximately 1 mile.

PLAYGROUND AREAS

There are two (2) playground areas. The smaller playground located near the large picnic pavilion towards the rear of the park has swings, slides, and a climbing apparatus appropriate for all ages. The large playground, located near the front of the park has slides, swings, a merry-go-round, tetherball & various climbing apparatus and activity centers.

BASKETBALL COURT

The park features a full size basketball court which has its own parking area.

PICNIC SHELTERS

Washington Township offers three (3) picnic shelters. The largest shelter is situated in the back of the park and can accommodate up to 100 people. This shelter is very popular for weddings, birthdays, and family reunions. Amenities include two (2) charcoal grills, two (2) port-a-potties, large parking area, electrical outlets, a playground area (public at all times), and a free-standing stage. The other two (2) picnic shelters can accommodate up to 25 people comfortably. These shelters are located near the front of the park on either side of the large playground area. The first shelter is located directly off the parking lot area and the other is located across from the fishing dock. Both shelters have one (1) charcoal grill available and port-a-potties are located nearby. Shelters can be reserved for a minimal fee.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOAT RAMP

The Washington Township Boat Ramp is located on the bank of the Ohio River in the small, historical village of Neville at the intersection of Coffee Street and Morgan Street. This ramp is fast becoming a popular destination point for boaters and fishermen alike.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CEMETERIES



The Board of Washington Township Trustees' goal is to properly maintain all Washington Township owned cemeteries in a fashion to respectfully remember those who have preceded us.

There are fifteen (15) cemeteries located within Washington Township. The Township maintains five (5) of them, four (4) of which are still active*.

*Moscow Cemetery, located at the end of Moscow Cemetery Road off U.S. 52

*Pt. Isabel Cemetery, located on Laurel-Pt. Isabel Road, just off the intersection of S.R. 222

*Neville Cemetery, located on Washington St. in the Village of Neville

*Mt. Olivet Calvary Cemetery, located at 2410 State Route 756

Chilo McKendree Chapel, located on Neville Penn-Schoolhouse Road

Of the other known ten (10) cemeteries located in the Township, one (1), Vesper Cemetery, located at 397 Neville-Penn Schoolhouse Road, is still active and maintained by the Vesper Cemetery Association and the other remaining nine (9) are located on private property.



For the past 5 years Washington Township has been aggressively restoring our oldest cemetery headstones. The Board has contracted with Mark Morton, of Gravestone Guardians, for these restorative services. Mr. Morton discovered an 1803 Revolutionary War Veteran headstone in Mt. Olivet Calvary Cemetery, along with many other long forgotten pioneers. In 2018 Mr. Morton restored Capt. John McClain burial site in Neville Cemetery. Additional work is scheduled for 2022.



Before ↑



Captain John McClain's Gravesite Restoration

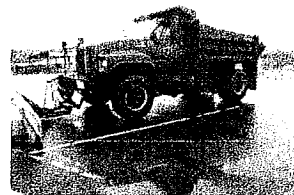


After ↑

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPARTMENT

The Road Maintenance Department maintains 26.071 miles of roadway in Washington Township and they do a variety of jobs, such as:

- Repair and service township roads and culverts
- Maintain and repair township buildings
- Maintain and repair township park and park amenities
- Maintain (mow) township owned cemeteries
- Snow removal activities (plowing & salting) on township roads
- Each year the Trustees and Road Supervisor review all Township roads and decide which roads will need re-paving.



In the township, there are several types of road systems. There are state, county, township, and private roads. The repair and maintenance of these roadways are the responsibility of the entity that has the legal authority to spend funds maintaining and improving them per Ohio Revised Code.

The township is responsible for:

Barger Road, Bear Creek Road, Beckelhymer Road, Bee's Run Road, Bert-Reed Memorial Road, Big Indian Road (Off S.R. 232, S.R. 222 & S.R. 743), Bolender Road, Brown Road, Burns Road, Cann Road, Collier Road, Collier Road (West), Coombs Road, Ginn Road, Houser Road, Ireton Trees Road (East & West), Kinnett Road, Leibich Road, Little Road, Maple Creek Road, Mill Street, Moscow Cemetery Road, Mullen Road, Myer Road, Pike Street, Pumpelly Road, Sargent Road, Utter Road, Waters Road, Weil Road, West Road, and Woodhill Cemetery Road.

It should be noted that several of these roads may be in two or more townships. The Township is only responsible for maintaining those sections of road that are within the township's boundaries. A good example of this situation is Bert-Reed Memorial Road, Ireton Trees Road, Weil Road, and Woodhill Cemetery Road.

The county is responsible for:

Bethel-Hygiene Road, Chilo Cemetery-McKendree Chapel Road, Fruit Ridge Road, Laurel-Moscow Road, Laurel-Pt. Isabel Road, Moscow Spur, Mt. Olivet-Pt. Isabel Road, Neville-Penn Schoolhouse Road, and Neville Spur.

The state is responsible for: S.R. 222, S.R. 232, S.R. 743, S.R. 756, and U.S. 52

Private Roads are the responsibility of the property owners living on the road. Private roads in Washington Township include:

Brandy Apple Cove, Bullock Lane, Cedar Ridge Road, Cherry Blossom Ridge, Eagle Knoll Drive, Eagle Point Drive, Eagle Ridge Drive, East Saltair Bluff, Grant's Pass Drive, Grant's Ridge Drive, Grant's Run Road, Grouse Ridge Road, Green Tree Lane, Haw Tree Road, Hawk's Nest Ridge, Hill Top Lane, Lauren's Ridge Road, Little Indian Road, Maple Tree Lane, Michel Drive, Old Orchard Drive, Padhair Lane, Pheasant Lane, Red Oak Ridge, Saltair Crossing Drive, Santa Maria Woods Drive, Tomahawk Trails, Turkeyfoot Road, and West Saltair Bluff.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

WASHINGTON TWP. FIRE & RESCUE

Washington Township Fire & Rescue is a combination department that consists of five (5) full time, sixteen (16) part time, and two (2) volunteer personnel. All 23 employees are cross trained as firefighters and paramedics/EMT's.

The Fire Department was formed in 1956 as an all-volunteer fire company and became a career department in 1995. Over the past five (5) years, due to the revaluation and deregulation of the Zimmer Power Station, the Board has decommissioned and sold three (3) fire stations and built a new centralized Fire Station to better service the residents of Washington Township.



POLICING SERVICES

Washington Township has contracted with the Clermont County Sheriff's Department for the past 30 years. In 2018 the residents passed a .4 mil levy to provide funding for the continuation of a Sheriff's contract. Our current contract deputy is Deputy Steven Seng.

On January 11, 2022 the township's previous deputy James Kirker, whom served the Township from 2007 – 2002, passed away from COVID-19 complications. His canine companion Officer Paik passed away the same day. The Board of Washington Township Trustees will be holding a memorial service in the near future to recognize Deputy James "Jim" Kirker and his K-9 partner Paik for their many years of outstanding service to Washington Township and the surrounding communities. Together they effectively reduced the drug trafficking and breaking and entering incidents in the Township. They also assisted in numerous missing persons searches throughout the region. Jim was one of the most dedicated individuals we have ever known. Jim lived his life as an example of what people could be...honest, compassionate, caring, hopeful, full of happiness, and, most importantly, overflowing with love.

OUR VILLAGES



The **Village of Moscow** had its plat recorded in 1816 by owner Owen Davis. The name of Moscow may have been from the officers of Napoleon's army who fled to the United States after his defeat at the Russian city.

Underground Railroad activities had a strong presence in the Village of Moscow. Robert and Thomas Fee became Underground Railroad Conductors, with their homes as "stations" or "hiding places" for slaves as they crossed the Ohio River into freedom. The "candle in the second story window" was a sign that it was clear to cross to freedom. Tunnels under these homes created the escape route for the slaves to move from house to house and eventually travel northward. The Fee Villa remains above the Moscow wharf which is still in place today as the public boat ramp, located at Broadway & Water Street. The visible cobble-stones were put in place in 1882.



The **Village of Neville** was laid out in 1808, and named for Gen. Presley Neville, the original owner of the town site. The post office in Neville has been in operation since 1816.

Since the Ohio River Valley flood in March 1997, the village has lost more than half its population as the Federal Emergency Management Agency purchased about 40% of the village's flood-prone lots. In 2016, Neville survived an initiative on dissolving the village into Washington Township. Neville faces possible financial insolvency following cuts to the state Local Government Fund, upon which the village relies entirely.



WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, LOCALS SCHOOLS & SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES IN JEOPARDY
(Below is a news articles on the closing of the Zimmer Power Station)

Clermont County, New Richmond schools may have to repay millions if Zimmer plant is devalued

MOSCOW, Ohio — Clermont County officials knew they would lose millions in future tax revenue when Vistra Corp. announced last year that it would close the William H. Zimmer coal plant in Moscow this May - five years early.

But that is just the beginning of the revenue loss that many Clermont communities, schools, and libraries could be facing this year.

Texas-based Vistra is challenging the county auditor's \$140 million property valuation of the plant and surrounding land, arguing that it is worth 80 percent less – or \$28.5 million. A hearing is set before the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals in Columbus on April 2023.

If Vistra wins its appeal, some public entities will be forced to repay the more than \$4 million in tax revenue they received over the past two years. The village of Moscow, Monroe and Washington townships, New Richmond schools, county libraries, Grant Career Center, and Clermont County could be substantially impacted.

"It could be catastrophic for them," said Deputy Clermont County Auditor Chris Mehlman.

While devaluation is possible, Mehlman said the burden of proof will be on Vistra at the July hearing to produce documents and testimony to show why their properties are worth far less than what Clermont County values them at.

03/21/2022 Paula Christian, WCOP Channel 9 New I-Team

FACTS:

- The re-evaluation of the Zimmer Power State has affected the General, Road & Bridge, Police, Fire and Ambulance Funds
- In 2015 the assessed valuate of Zimmer Power Station was \$156,921,860.00
- In 2016 the assessed valuate of Zimmer Power Station was \$112,666,060.00
- In 2017 the assessed valuate of Zimmer Power Station was \$73,194,480.00
- In 2016 the assessed valuate of Zimmer Power Station was \$55,275,330.00
- Today Texas based Vistra is asking the Ohio Board of Appeals to access the value of the Zimmer Power Station to \$28,000,000.00 – 80% less than the Auditor's evaluation of \$140,000,000.00.
- Vistra's appeal to the Ohio Tax Board is retroactive back 2020.
- If Vistra is successful in their appeal public entities will be forced to payback 4 million in tax revenues.

New Richmond Schools –	\$2.5 million
Clermont County –	\$723,000.00
Washington Township -	\$619,000.00
Grant Voc. School Dist. -	\$366,000.00
Moscow Village -	\$133,000.00
C.C. Public Library -	\$65,000.00
Monroe Township -	\$17,000.00
- A committee if being form to fight this injustice to our community.

